



wisconsin department of
children & families

Program Operations Section

201 E. Washington Avenue, Room A200

Madison, WI 53708-8916

Governor Scott Walker
Secretary Eloise Anderson

Division of Family and Economic Security

Bureau of Working Families

**Office for Civil Rights and Department of Children and Families
Voluntary Compliance Agreement Deliverable
December 31, 2012
Report on Data Identified in Section VI (E) (5) (c)
Standardized Annual Report of Sanctions by Race, Color, or National Origin
Report Period July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012**

Definition of Count: The data presented here is considered “participant months” which is calculated as a count of the number of individuals in a W-2 paid placement that can be sanctioned each month. For example, if an individual is in a W-2 paid placement that can be sanctioned for three months during this time period, that would translate to three participant months. The same individual is counted three times.

1. The total number of participant months in a placement that could be sanctioned in the Wisconsin Works (W-2) program during the period of July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012 was 178,790. The data below relates to the W-2 caseload that is in a placement that can be sanctioned. Data on participants in a placement that can not be sanctioned is not part of this report. A sanction means a payment reduction to the W-2 monthly benefit.
 - a. The total number of African American participant months in the W-2 program was 107,917 which accounted for 60.4% of the caseload.
 - b. The total number of White participant months in the W-2 program was 42,900 which accounted for 24.0% of the caseload.
 - c. The total number of Hispanic participant months in the W-2 program was 17,470 which accounted for 9.8% of the caseload.
 - d. The total number of participant months of an unknown race in the W-2 program was 3,491 which accounted for 2.0% of the caseload.
 - e. The total number of participant months of multiple races in the W-2 program was 2,706 which accounted for 1.5% of the caseload.
 - f. The total number of American Indian or Alaskan Native participant months in the W-2 program was 2,241 which accounted for 1.3% of the caseload.

T 608.267.9886 TTY 608.267.2200 bwf_co@wisconsin.gov

- g. The total number of Asian participant months in the W-2 program was 1,932 which accounted for 1.1% of the case load.
 - h. The total number of Hawaiian Native or Pacific Islander participant months in the W-2 program was 133 which accounted for 0.1% of the caseload.
2. The total number of W-2 participant months with a sanction of 20% or more for a benefit month in the W-2 program was 36,822. The data below shows data on sanctions that are equal to 20% or more for a benefit month. The data shows that African Americans, Hispanics, multiple races, and American Indian/Alaskan Natives have a higher percentage of sanction months than participation months for their race. The data shows that Whites, unknown race, Asians, and Hawaiian Native/Pacific Islanders have a lower percentage of sanction months than participation months for their race. The data does not indicate that any of these sanctions were inappropriate. The Department of Children and Families has been monitoring sanctions that are 20% or greater of the monthly benefit and has observed that policy regarding sanctioning was applied correctly.
- a. The total number of participant months with a sanction for African American participants was 24,503 which accounted for 66.5% of the total months of sanction.
 - b. The total number of participant months with a sanction for White participants was 6,664 which accounted for 18.1% of the total months of sanction.
 - c. The total number of participant months with a sanction for Hispanic participants was 3,693 which accounted for 10.0% of the total months of sanction.
 - d. The total number of participant months with a sanction for participants with an unknown race was 564 which accounted for 1.5% of the total months of sanction.
 - e. The total number of participant months with a sanction for participants of multiple races was 632 which accounted for 1.7% of the total months of sanction.
 - f. The total number of participant months with a sanction for American Indian or Alaskan Native participants was 565 which accounted for 1.5% of the total months of sanction.
 - g. The total number of participant months with a sanction for Asian participants was 185 which accounted for 0.5% of the total months of sanction.
 - h. The total number of participant months with a sanction for Hawaiian Native or Pacific Islander participants was 16 which accounted for 0.0% of the total months of sanction.
3. Information about complaints filed by applicants and participants based on race, color, or national origin in relationship to the W-2 program:

- a. Three complaints were filed. The Equal Opportunity Specialist was unable to substantiate the complaints as being civil rights compliance violations. The complaints were referred to the Bureau of Working Families for resolution.
- b. Results of Complaint 1: The Child Care agency did not authorize child care timely so the W-2 participant could attend their W-2 activities. The process issue that existed between the W-2 and Child Care agency was resolved. The child care was authorized and the W-2 participant could attend their W-2 activities.

Results of Complaint 2: The agency denied the applicant W-2. The applicant filed an appeal. The agency decision to deny W-2 was overturned and the agency issued benefits back to the date of the appeal decision.

Result of Complaint 3: The agency denied Emergency Assistance (housing assistance). Upon the Department's review of the application, the denial was appropriate. The agency referred the applicant to other community resources.